THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:	December 11, 2001)	
CAPITAL MORTGAGE FU	NDING, L.L.C.)	DOCKET NO. 01-00656

ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("Authority" or "TRA") at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on August 7, 2001, for consideration of a proposed Settlement Agreement between the Consumer Services Division of the TRA (the "CSD") and Capital Mortgage Funding, L.L.C. ("Capital Mortgage") for violations of the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Telephone Sales Solicitation statutes, Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-401 et seq. The proposed Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-404 and Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-4-11-.07(1) prohibit persons and entities from knowingly making or causing to be made telephone sales solicitation calls to any residential subscribers in this state who have given timely and proper notice to the Authority of their objection to receiving telephone solicitations. Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-405(f) authorizes the Authority to initiate proceedings relative to violations of the Do-Not-Call statutes and the TRA rules and regulations (Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-4-11-.01 *et seq.*) promulgated pursuant to the Do-Not-Call statutes. "Such proceedings may include without limitation proceedings to issue a cease and desist order, to issue an order imposing a civil penalty up to a maximum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each knowing violation and to seek additional relief in any court of competent jurisdiction." Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-405(f).

Between September 11, 2000 and June 26, 2001, the CSD received three (3) separate complaints against Capital Mortgage from Tennessee consumers whose residential telephone numbers were properly and timely registered on the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Register. During the investigation of these complaints, the CSD determined that Capital Mortgage had engaged in the solicitation of Tennessee residential telephone subscribers without registering as a telephone solicitor and obtaining the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Register, in violation of Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-401 and Tenn. Comp. Rules & Reg. 1220-4-11-.04(1). Capital Mortgage faced a maximum fine for these four (4) violations of Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-401 et seq. of eight thousand (\$8,000) dollars.

The proposed Settlement Agreement was negotiated as the result of the CSD's investigation into the complaints against Capital Mortgage. In negotiating the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, the CSD took into consideration Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-116(b), which provides:

In determining the amount of the penalty, the appropriateness of the penalty to the size of the business of the person, firm or corporation charged, the gravity of the violation and the good faith of the person, firm or corporation charged in attempting to achieve compliance, after notification of a violation, shall be considered. The amount of the penalty, when finally determined, may be deducted from any sums owing by the state to the person, firm or corporation charged or may be recovered in a civil action in the courts of this state.

Capital Mortgage, a company which employs approximately six (6) workers, is located in Nashville, Tennessee, and has no known history of violating the statutes and rules enforceable by the Authority. The CSD's investigation revealed that Capital Mortgage has not engaged in a pattern of continued violations of Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-401 et seq. Once Capital Mortgage obtained counsel, it cooperated fully with the CSD's investigation of the above mentioned complaints and ceased all telemarketing activity in Tennessee until it registered as a telephone

solicitor and obtained the Do-Not-Call register from the Authority as required by Tenn. Comp. Rules & Reg. 1220-4-11-.04(1).

As a part of the Settlement Agreement, Capital Mortgage agreed to implement measures, as outlined in Exhibit A, to prevent similar occurrences in the future. In addition, Capital Mortgage agreed to pay to the Authority the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in the following manner: Capital Mortgage will remit one thousand dollars (\$1,000) on the date of the Authority's approval of the Settlement Agreement and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per month, no later than the first business day of each month for the following four (4) consecutive months.

The manager of Capital Mortgage, Michael Michitti, appeared at the Authority Conference on August 7, 2001. Following a discussion with the parties and a review of the Settlement Agreement, the Directors voted unanimously to accept and approve the Settlement Agreement.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Settlement Agreement, attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, is accepted and approved and is incorporated into this Order as if fully rewritten herein.
- 2. Capital Mortgage Funding, LLC agrees to pay the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) into the Public Utilities Account of the TRA in the following manner: Capital Mortgage will remit one thousand dollars (\$1,000) within five (5) days of the Authority's approval of the Settlement Agreement, and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per month, no later than the first business day of each month for the following four (4) consecutive months.
- 3. Upon payment of the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), Capital Mortgage is excused from further proceedings in this matter, provided that, in the event of any failure on the part of Capital Mortgage to comply with the terms and conditions of the Settlement

Agreement, the Authority reserves the right to re-open this docket.

Sara Kyle, Chairman

H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director

Melvin /. Malone, Director

ATTEST

K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary

THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:)
)
ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF Tenn. Code)
Ann.§65-4-401 et seq., DO-NOT-CALL) DOCKET NO.
SALES SOLICITATION LAW, AND) 01-00656
RULES OF TENNESSEE REGULATORY)
AUTHORITY, CHAPTER 1220-4-11, BY:) DO-NOT-CALL T00-00184
) PROGRAM T01-00084
CAPITAL MORTGAGE FUNDING, L.L.C.) FILE NUMBERS T01-00391
)

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement has been entered into between the Consumer Services Division ("CSD") of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA") and Capital Mortgage Funding, L.L.C., ("Capital Mortgage") and is subject to the approval of the Directors of the TRA. Capital Mortgage, a company which employs approximately six (6) workers, is located in Nashville, Tennessee. Capital Mortgage registered as a telephone solicitor with the TRA on July 10, 2001.

This Settlement Agreement pertains to three (3) separate complaints received by the CSD alleging that Capital Mortgage violated the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Telephone Sales Solicitation law, Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-404, and Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-4-11.07(1), by knowingly making or causing to be made telephone sales solicitation calls to three (3) residential subscribers in this state who had given timely and proper notice to the TRA of their objection to receiving telephone solicitations.



Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-405(f) authorizes the TRA to assess penalties for violations of the Tennessee Do-Not-Call statutes, including the issuance of a cease and desist order and the imposition of a civil penalty of up to a maximum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each knowing violation. The CSD relied upon the factors set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-116(b) during the negotiations which resulted in this agreement, including Capital Mortgage's size, financial status and good faith, and the gravity of the violations.

In an effort to resolve these three (3) complaints, represented by the file numbers above, CSD and Capital Mortgage agree to settle these complaints based upon the following acknowledgements and terms subject to approval by the Directors of the TRA:

- 1. Capital Mortgage is registered with the TRA as a telephone solicitor and obtains a copy of the Do Not Call Registry.
- 2. Capital Mortgage agrees to a civil penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) as authorized by Tenn. Code Ann. §65-4-405(f), and agrees to remit the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the TRA within five (5) days of the date the Directors of the TRA approve this Settlement Agreement and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per month, no later than the first business day of each month for the next four (4) consecutive months. Upon payment of the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, Capital Mortgage is excused from further proceedings in this matter.
- 3. In the event of any failure on the part of Capital Mortgage to comply with the terms and conditions of this agreement, the Authority reserves the right to re-open this docket for the

purpose of securing compliance and enforcing the Settlement Agreement. Any costs incurred to enforce the Settlement Agreement shall be paid by Capital Mortgage.

- 4. Capital Mortgage agrees that a company representative will appear at the Authority conference at which this Settlement Agreement is considered for approval by the Directors.
- 5. Capital Mortgage agrees to comply fully with all provisions of the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Telephone Sales Solicitation law and regulations.

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Eddie	KOU	CISOII

Chief, Consumer Services Division Tennessee Regulatory Authority

July 26, 2001

Signature

ike michitti

Print Name

President

Print Title

Capital Mortgage Funding, LLC

7/26/01

Date